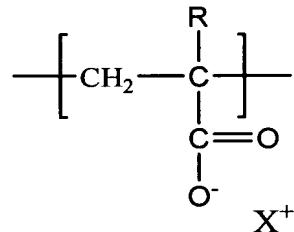


Amendments to the Claims

Please cancel Claims 2, 3, 5, 6, 9, 13, 17, 20, 25-27, 29, 30, 32-40, 46-52, 57, 59-61, 64, 67-69, 74-78, 83, 84 and 86-88. Please amend Claims 7, 12, 16, 19, 28, 56 and 82. The Claim Listing below will replace all prior versions of the claims in the application:

Claim Listing

1. (Original) A bimodal polymer composition, comprising a first polymer with anionic character and a second polymer with cationic character, wherein the polymers form an interpenetrating polymer network.
2. (Canceled)
3. (Canceled)
4. (Original) The bimodal polymer composition of Claim 1 wherein the first polymer includes the following carboxylate salt monomer unit:

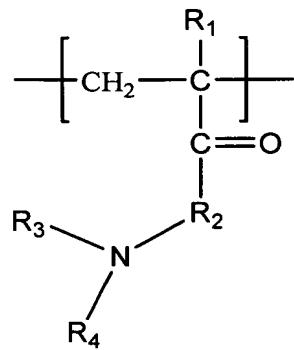


wherein R is hydrogen or an alkyl group and X⁺ is a salt-forming cation.

5. (Canceled)
6. (Canceled)

7. (Currently amended) The bimodal polymer composition of Claim [[6]] 4 wherein the first polymer contains about 12 to about 20 weight percent carboxylate salt monomer units.
8. (Original) The bimodal polymer composition of Claim 1 wherein the second polymer includes an ammonium derivative monomer unit.
9. (Canceled)
10. (Original) The bimodal polymer composition of Claim 8 wherein the ammonium derivative monomer unit is selected from the group consisting of: dialkyl amino alkyl acrylates, dialkyl amino alkyl methacrylates, quaternized adducts of dialkyl amino alkyl acrylate, quaternized adducts of dialkyl amino alkyl methacrylate, methacrylamide and esters thereof, vinyl pyrrolidone, and vinyl caprolactam.
11. (Original) The bimodal polymer composition of Claim 10 wherein the ammonium derivative monomer unit is dimethylaminoethyl methacrylate or a quaternized adduct thereof.
12. (Currently amended) The bimodal polymer composition of Claim 1 wherein at least one of the first polymer and the second polymer includes a water insoluble monomer unit.
13. (Canceled)
14. (Original) The bimodal polymer composition of Claim 12 wherein the water insoluble monomer unit is selected from the group consisting of: esters of acrylate, esters of methacrylate, ethers of acrylate, ethers of methacrylate, styrene, and alpha-methyl styrene.
15. (Original) The bimodal polymer composition of Claim 14 wherein the water insoluble monomer unit is butyl methacrylate.

16. (Currently amended) The bimodal polymer composition of Claim 1 wherein at least one of the first polymer and the second polymer includes a water soluble monomer unit selected from the group consisting of: hydroxy functional acrylates, hydroxy functional methacrylates, and alkoxylated adducts thereof.
17. (Canceled)
18. (Original) The bimodal polymer composition of Claim 16 wherein the water soluble monomer unit is hydroxypropyl methacrylate.
19. (Currently amended) The bimodal polymer composition of Claim 1 wherein at least one of the first polymer and the second polymer includes a cross-linking or multifunctional monomer unit.
20. (Canceled)
21. (Original) The bimodal polymer composition of Claim 19 wherein the cross-linking or multifunctional monomer unit is selected from the group consisting of multifunctional acrylates, multifunctional methacrylates and diallyl phthalate.
22. (Original) The bimodal polymer composition of Claim 1 wherein the second polymer includes a monomer unit of anionic functionality.
23. (Original) The bimodal polymer composition of Claim 22 wherein the monomer unit of anionic functionality is selected from the group consisting of: acrylic acid, methacrylic acid and esters thereof.
24. (Original) The bimodal polymer composition of Claim 1 wherein the second polymer includes the following cationic monomer unit:



or a quaternized adduct thereof,
wherein R₁, R₃ and R₄ are, independently, hydrogen or an alkyl group and R₂ is an alkyl group.

25. (Canceled)
26. (Canceled)
27. (Canceled)
28. (Currently amended) The bimodal polymer composition of Claim [[27]] 1 wherein the second polymer contains about 12 to about 20 weight percent of cationic monomer units.
29. (Canceled)
30. (Canceled)
31. (Original) The bimodal polymer composition of Claim 1 wherein the first polymer includes a monomer unit with anionic functionality selected from the group consisting of acidic acrylate monomer; acidic methacrylate monomer;

2-sulfoethylmethacrylate and salts thereof; 2-acrylamido-2-methyl propanesulfonate and salts thereof; crotonic acid; itaconic acid, fumaric acid; acid anhydrides; and half esters of di-carboxylate monomer.

32. (Canceled)
33. (Canceled)
34. (Canceled)
35. (Canceled)
36. (Canceled)
37. (Canceled)
38. (Canceled)
39. (Canceled)
40. (Canceled)
41. (Original) The bimodal polymer composition of Claim 1 wherein the first polymer includes a chain modifier.
42. (Original) The bimodal polymer composition of Claim 41 wherein the chain modifier is an alcohol or a mercaptan.
43. (Original) The bimodal polymer composition of Claim 1 wherein the first polymer is present in a concentration of about 10 to about 90 weight percent.

44. (Original) The bimodal polymer composition of Claim 1 wherein the second polymer is present in a concentration of about 10 to about 90 weight percent.
45. (Original) The bimodal polymer composition of Claim 1 wherein the glass transition temperature (T_g) of the composition is less than about 40°C.
46. (Canceled)
47. (Canceled)
48. (Canceled)
49. (Canceled)
50. (Canceled)
51. (Canceled)
52. (Canceled)
53. (Original) A personal care fixative containing the bimodal polymer composition of Claim 1.
54. (Original) The personal care fixative of Claim 53 further including one or more volatile solvents.
55. (Original) The personal care fixative of Claim 54 having a total volatile solvent concentration ranging from about 30 to about 95 weight percent.
56. (Currently amended) The personal care fixative of Claim 53 further including a neutralizing agent at least one compound selected from the group consisting of neutralizing agents and alcohols.

57. (Canceled)

58. (Original) The personal care fixative of Claim 53 further including at least one component selected from the group consisting of thickening agents, dispersing agents, emulsifiers, emollients, stabilizers, surfactants, fragrances, preservatives, proteins, conditioners, colorants, dyes, plasticizers, neutralizers, glossifiers and propellants.

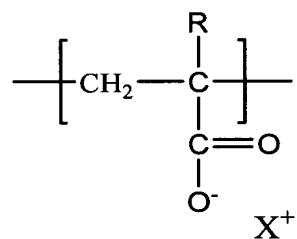
59. (Canceled)

60. (Canceled)

61. (Canceled)

62. (Original) A method for forming a bimodal polymer composition, comprising the step of polymerizing monomers to form a first polymer with cationic character in the presence of a second polymer with anionic character.

63. (Original) The method of Claim 62 wherein the second polymer includes the following carboxylate salt monomer unit:



wherein R is hydrogen or an alkyl group and X⁺ is a salt-forming cation.

64. (Canceled)

65. (Original) The method of Claim 63 wherein the second polymer is dispersed in an aqueous medium.

66. (Original) The method of Claim 65 wherein the aqueous medium includes at least one compound selected from the group consisting of: salts of alkylpolyethoxyethanol sulfosuccinate, salts of lauryl sulfate and salts of laurylpolyethoxyethanol.

67. (Canceled)

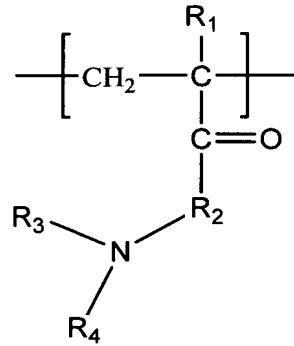
68. (Canceled)

69. (Canceled)

70. (Original) The method of Claim 62 wherein emulsion polymerization is used to polymerize monomers to form the first polymer in the presence of the second polymer.

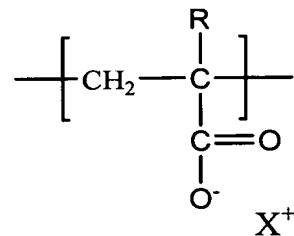
71. (Original) A method for forming a bimodal polymer composition, comprising the step of polymerizing monomers to form a first polymer with anionic character in the presence of a second polymer with cationic character.

72. (Original) The method of Claim 71 wherein the second polymer includes the following cationic monomer unit:



or a quaternized adduct thereof,
wherein R₁, R₃ and R₄ are, independently, hydrogen or an alkyl group and R₂ is an alkyl group.

73. (Original) The method of Claim 72 wherein the cationic monomer unit includes diethyl amino ethyl methacrylate or a quaternized adduct thereof.
74. (Canceled)
75. (Canceled)
76. (Canceled)
77. (Canceled)
78. (Canceled)
79. (Original) The method of Claim 71 wherein emulsion polymerization is used to polymerize monomers to form the first polymer in the presence of the second polymer.
80. (Original) A method for forming a bimodal polymer composition, comprising the step of polymerizing monomers to form a first polymer with cationic character in the presence of a second polymer with anionic character wherein the first polymer is formed from a monomer composition including about 35 to about 45 weight percent ammonium derivative monomer, about 15 to about 30 weight percent water insoluble monomer, and about 5 to about 15 weight percent water soluble monomer.
81. (Original) The method of Claim 80 wherein the second polymer includes the following carboxylate salt monomer unit:



wherein R is hydrogen or an alkyl group and X⁺ is a salt-forming cation.

82. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 81 wherein the second polymer is dispersed in an aqueous medium which includes at least one compound selected from the group consisting of: salts of alkylpolyethoxyethanol sulfosuccinate, salts of lauryl sulfate and salts of laurylpolyethoxyethanol.
83. (Canceled)
84. (Canceled)
85. (Original) The method of Claim 80 wherein the weight ratio of the first polymer to the second polymer is about 0.1 to about 2.
86. (Canceled)
87. (Canceled)
88. (Canceled)
89. (Original) A bimodal polymer composition formed by the method of Claim 80.